

For immediate release

## **COMMUNITY FORUM ON HIV AND THE CRIMINAL LAW TO LAUNCH PROSECUTORIAL GUIDELINES CAMPAIGN**

A free community forum on HIV and the criminal law will bring together prominent writers, activists and researchers to speak on the disconcerting growing trend of HIV-related criminal charges — an area in which Canada has the dubious distinction of leading the world.

At the event, the Ontario Working Group on Criminal Law and HIV Exposure will launch its campaign for prosecutorial guidelines, which would inform prosecutors on how to employ a science-based approach in their cases involving HIV.

**Event:** Limiting the Law: Sex, Silence and Science  
**When:** Thursday, September 30, 2010  
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Oakham House  
55 Gould Street  
Toronto

### **Speakers:**

- **Edwin J. Bernard**, British HIV-positive writer, editor and activist. Editor, HIV and the Criminal Law and Criminal HIV Transmission blog ([www.criminalhivtransmission.blogspot.com](http://www.criminalhivtransmission.blogspot.com))
- **Richard Elliott**, Executive Director, Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
- **Rai Reece**, Women's Programme Coordinator, Prisoners' HIV/AIDS Support Action Network (PASAN)
- **Tim McCaskell**, The Ontario Working Group on Criminal Law and HIV Exposure
- **Eric Mykhalovskiy**, Associate Professor at York University, Department of Sociology

### **Sponsored by:**

- Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network

- HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic Ontario (HALCO)
- The Ontario Working Group on Criminal Law and HIV Exposure

The Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network is launching a resource kit to support defense lawyers in the preparation of their cases: [www.aidslaw.ca/lawyers-kit](http://www.aidslaw.ca/lawyers-kit).

The Ontario Working Group on Criminal Law and HIV Exposure is launching its campaign for prosecutorial guidelines.

Edwin J. Bernard has produced a new international resource for UK HIV information charity, NAM. *HIV and the Criminal Law* is available as a book and online at [www.aidsmap.com/law](http://www.aidsmap.com/law).

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